

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A document feeder device comprising:
a frame; and
at least one cantilevered roller shaft for advancing a document, wherein ~~an unsupported end of the at least one cantilevered roller shaft floats~~ the at least one cantilevered roller shaft is supported only at one end.
2. (Original) The device of claim 1 wherein a supported end of the at least one cantilevered roller shaft is supported at two support locations located outside a document path, wherein the document can be appropriately fed.
3. (Original) The device of claim 1 wherein a need for a rigid frame that directly supports the unsupported end is eliminated.
4. (Original) The device of claim 1 wherein the frame further comprises a main portion and front portion, and wherein the at least one cantilevered roller shaft is coupled to the main portion such that the at least one cantilevered roller shaft does not rely on the front portion for support.

5. (Original) The device of claim 1 wherein at least one gimbal roller is coupled to the at least one cantilevered roller shaft.

6. (Original) The device of claim 1 further comprising a second roller shaft coupled to the frame.

7. (Original) The device of claim 6 wherein the second roller shaft is cantilevered and wherein a second unsupported end of the second cantilevered roller shaft floats.

8. (Original) The device of claim 7 wherein a second supported end of the second roller shaft is supported at two second support locations located outside a document path, wherein the document can be appropriately fed.

9. (Original) The device of claim 6 wherein at least one gimbal roller is coupled to the second roller shaft.

10. (Currently amended) A document feeder device comprising:

a frame; and

at least one cantilevered roller shaft for advancing a document, wherein the at least one cantilevered roller shaft comprises a distal end and a proximal end, and wherein only the proximal end is coupled to the frame such that the distal end floats.

11. (Original) The device of claim 10 wherein a need for a rigid frame that directly supports the distal end is eliminated.

12. (Original) The device of claim 10 wherein the at least one cantilevered roller shaft is supported at two support locations at the proximal end, wherein the two support locations are located outside a document path.

13. (Original) The device of claim 10 wherein the frame further comprises a main portion and front portion, and wherein the at least one cantilevered roller shaft is coupled to the main portion such that the at least one cantilevered roller shaft does not rely on the front portion for support.

14. (Original) The device of claim 10 wherein at least one gimbal roller is coupled to the at least one cantilevered roller shaft.

15. (Original) The device of claim 10 further comprising a second roller shaft coupled to the frame, the second roller shaft having a second distal end and a second proximal end.

16. (Original) The device of claim 15 wherein the second roller shaft is cantilevered and is coupled to the frame such that the second distal end floats.

17. (Original) The device of claim 16 wherein the second roller shaft is supported at two support locations at the second proximal end, wherein the two support locations are located outside a document path.

18. (Original) The device of claim 16 wherein the frame further comprises a main portion and front portion, and wherein the second roller shaft is coupled to the main portion such that the second roller shaft does not rely on the front portion for support.

19. (Original) The device of claim 15 wherein at least one gimbal roller is coupled to the second roller shaft.

20. (Currently amended) A printer system comprising:

a frame; and

at least one cantilevered roller shaft for advancing a document, wherein the at least one cantilevered roller shaft comprises a distal end and a proximal end, wherein only the proximal end is coupled to the frame such that the distal end floats.

21. (Original) The system of claim 20 wherein a need for a rigid frame that directly supports the distal end is eliminated.

22. (Original) The system of claim 20 wherein the at least one cantilevered roller shaft is supported at two support locations at the proximal end, wherein the two support locations are located outside a document path.

23. (Original) The system of claim 20 wherein the frame further comprises a main portion and front portion, and wherein the at least one cantilevered roller shaft is coupled to the main portion such that the at least one cantilevered roller shaft does not rely on the front portion for support.

24. (Original) The system of claim 20 wherein at least one gimbal roller is coupled to the at least one cantilevered roller shaft.

25. (Original) The system of claim 20 further comprising a drive device coupled to the frame, wherein the drive device rotates the at least one shaft to advance the document.

26. (Original) The system of claim 20 further comprising a second roller shaft coupled to the frame, the second roller shaft having a second distal end and a second proximal end.

27. (Original) The system of claim 26 wherein the second roller shaft is cantilevered and is coupled to the frame such that the second distal end floats.

28. (Original) The system of claim 27 wherein the second roller shaft is supported at two support locations at the second proximal end, wherein the two support locations are located outside a document path.

29. (Original) The system of claim 27 wherein the frame further comprises a main portion and front portion, and wherein the second roller shaft is coupled to the main portion such that the second roller shaft does not rely on the front portion for support.

30. (Original) The system of claim 26 wherein at least one gimbal roller is coupled to the second roller shaft.

31. (Original) The system of claim 26 further comprising a drive device coupled to the frame, wherein the drive device rotates the second roller shaft to advance the document.

32. (Currently amended) A method for feeding a document through a printer, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) providing at least one cantilevered roller shaft in the printer for advancing the document; and

(b) coupling only a supported end of the at least one cantilevered roller shaft to a frame of the printer such that an unsupported end of the at least one cantilevered roller shaft floats.

33. (Original) The method of claim 32 further comprising the steps of:

- (c) providing at least one roller coupled to the at least one cantilevered roller shaft;
- (d) inserting the document in a document path of the printer until the document reaches the at least one roller; and
- (e) rotating the at least one roller to advance the document along the paper path.

34. (Original) The method of claim 33 further comprising the step of (f) removing the document from the document path.

35. (Original) The method of claim 32 further comprising the step of (c) providing a second roller shaft for advancing the document.

36. (Original) The method of claim 35 further comprising the step of (d) coupling the second roller shaft to the frame of the printer.

37. (Original) The method of claim 35 further comprising the step of (d) coupling a second supported end of the second roller shaft to the frame of the printer such that a second unsupported end of the second cantilevered roller shaft floats.

38. (Original) The method of claim 36 further comprising the steps of:

- (e) providing at least one roller coupled to the at least one cantilevered roller shaft;
- (f) providing at least one second roller coupled to the second roller shaft;

(g) inserting the document in a document path of the printer until the document reaches the at least one roller and the at least one second roller; and

(h) rotating the at least one roller and the at least one second roller to advance the document along the paper path.

39. (Original) The method of claim 38 further comprising the step of (i) removing the document from the document path.

40. (Currently amended) A method for feeding a document through a printer, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) providing at least one cantilevered roller shaft in the printer for advancing the document, wherein the at least one cantilevered roller shaft comprises a distal end and a proximal end; and

(b) coupling only the proximal end to a frame of the printer such that the distal end floats.

41. (Original) The method of claim 40 further comprising the steps of:

(c) providing at least one roller coupled to the at least one cantilevered roller shaft;

(d) inserting the document in a document path of the printer until the document reaches the at least one roller; and

(e) rotating the at least one roller to advance the document along the paper path.

42. (Original) The method of claim 41 further comprising the step of (f) removing the document from the document path.

43. (Original) The method of claim 40 further comprising the step of (c) providing a second roller shaft for advancing the document, wherein the second roller shaft comprises a second distal end and a second proximal end.

44. (Original) The method of claim 43 further comprising the step of (d) coupling the second roller shaft to the frame of the printer.

45. (Original) The method of claim 43 further comprising the step of (d) coupling the second proximal end to the frame of the printer such that the second roller shaft is cantilevered and the second distal end floats.

46. (Original) The method of claim 44 further comprising the steps of:

(e) providing at least one roller coupled to the at least one cantilevered roller shaft;

(f) providing at least one second roller coupled to the second roller shaft;

(g) inserting the document in a document path of the printer until the document reaches the at least one roller and the at least one second roller; and

(h) rotating the at least one roller and the at least one second roller to advance the document along the paper path.

47. (Original) The method of claim 46 further comprising the step of (i) removing the document from the document path.